

EQIP Application Evaluation Worksheet Instructions
July 1, 2002

This Ranking Worksheet has been developed to:

1. Help achieve the national purposes of EQIP, which are to promote agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible goals, and to optimize environmental benefits by:
 - Assisting producers to voluntarily comply with regulatory requirements concerns soil, water, air, wildlife, surface and ground water conservation
 - Avoiding the need for further resource and regulatory programs.
 - Providing flexible assistance to producers to install and maintain conservation practices that enhance soil, water, related natural resources (including grazing land and wetland), and wildlife while sustaining production.
 - Assisting producers to make beneficial, cost effective changes to cropping systems, grazing management, nutrient management associated with livestock, pest, or irrigation management, or other practices on agricultural land.
 - Consolidating and streamlining conservation planning and regulatory compliance processes.
2. Help achieve recommendations on resource concern priorities made by the Iowa State Technical Committee as follows:
 - Livestock
 - Water Quality
 - Soil Quality
 - Wildlife Habitat
3. Help attain efficient and effective use of EQIP funds and staff time for the balance of fiscal year 2002.

Instructions for completing EQIP Evaluation Worksheet

These instructions are to assist field office staff with completing the new EQIP evaluation worksheet for applications to be considered for FY 2002 funding after May 13th, 2002.

Title Block - Complete all items.

Complete the worksheet based only on EQIP cost shared or incentive payment practices and location of the proposed EQIP contract.

A1. Self explanatory

A2 -Applications that include treatment of open feed lots that are a high risk as assessed by DNR assessment of open feedlots. This criteria applies to the applicants that signed -up for an assessment prior to December. 31, 2001. The applicant will need to provide assessment results from DNR to the District Conservationist.

A4. Self explanatory

B1. Contracts receive points for treating impairments in watersheds of 303(d) lakes, wetlands or watershed tributaries that outlet into certain impaired stream segments. Attachment a show the watershed area. (County maps will be provided).

B2. Self explanatory (List the name of the area/project on the worksheet.)

C1. Apply criteria to applications where EQIP practices in the contract result in the soil resource consideration quality criteria from Section III to the Field Office Technical Guide being met on at least one land use for the contract area.

C2. Apply criteria to applications where EQIP practices in the contract result in the soil resource consideration quality criteria from Section III to the Field Office Technical Guide being met on at least one land use for all the acres in the tract.

D1. To receive points the application must include the application on an EQIP funded wildlife practice and the practice(s) must be listed.

Send both pages of the completed worksheets to Larry Beeler at the state office via fax or regular mail. Do not send

EQIP Application Evaluation Worksheet for 2002

Applicant's Name:	_____	Tract Number(s):	_____
Location County:	_____		
Date Application Signed:	_____	Contract Size:	_____ Acres
EQIP Dollars (rounded to nearest dollar): \$	_____	Total Points:	_____
Evaluation Completed By:	_____	Date:	_____

This worksheet is to be used to evaluate EQIP applications and prioritize the applications for funding. Complete the worksheet based on the resource concern, and only for **practices that will receive EQIP cost share and/or incentive payments and the location of the proposed EQIP contract area**. Circle point amounts that apply and total the amounts at the end of the form.

A. Livestock Resource Consideration Criteria (50 Point Maximum)

1. Application is for an animal manure storage facility, which is part of a CNMP that provides:

a) Treatment of an existing Animal Feeding Operation (AFO) that has not been treated previously.

25 Points

OR

b) Treatment is replacing an existing AFO storage facility (without expansion).

15 Points

OR

c) Treatment on expansion, or new facility for an AFO.

5 Points

2. Application is for a livestock manure storage system to treat a high risk, as evaluated by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources Environmental Priority Assessment for Open Feedlots. The applicant will need to provide assessment results to receive points.

10 Points

3. Application is for the development of a prescribed grazing system that will be applied with EQIP funds.

15 Points

B. Water Quality Resource Consideration (40 Point Maximum)

1. Application is located in a 303(d) lake or wetland watershed and the EQIP practices treat the identified resource concern (impairment) in the watershed (see Attachment A for a map showing 303(d) lakes or wetland watersheds).

OR

Application is in the watershed of a tributary that outlets directly into an impaired stream segment that is identified on the 303(d) list. Do not include the tributaries of the impaired segments on the following major rivers: Big Sioux River, Cedar River, Chariton River, Des Moines River, Iowa River, Maquoketa River, Mississippi River, Missouri River, North Raccoon River, and the Raccoon River (see attachment A for a map showing the watersheds of impaired stream segments).

15 Points

2. Application is within a special local or state resource concern area. (Examples include, but are not limited to: submitted previously as an EQIP Priority Area, approved 319 Project Area, approved for watershed protection funds, watersheds of Iowa's non-point source management program, priority lake, municipal water supply, or priority cold water stream.)

15 Points

List name of project area: _____

3. Application is for a non-livestock operation that develops a nutrient management plan.

10 Points

C. Soil Resource Consideration (25 Point Maximum):

1. Application is for practice(s) that, when combined with other practices in the applicant's conservation plan, completes a resource management system that treats the soil resource concern for at least one land use for the application area per the NRCS FOTG.

15 Points

OR

2. Application is for practice(s) that, when combined with other practices in the applicant's conservation plan, completes a resource management system that treats the soil resource concern for at least one land use and is applied to the whole tract per the FOTG.

25 Points

D. Wildlife Habitat Resource Consideration (10 Point Maximum)

(Plans entirely for wildlife should be considered for the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program.)

1. Application includes an established natural area that will be improved and managed for wildlife per the applicable wildlife practice started in the FOTG. Standards: _____

10 Points

Total the circled point amounts here: _____
(Enter total in Page 1 Title Block)

Evaluations that meet or exceed a total of 45 points are to

proceed with the contract development process.